

C 96-68

University of Toronto

Faculty of Music

New Music Festival

Friday, November 1, 1996

at 8:00 p.m.

Walter Hall

NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL PERSONNEL

**Gary Kulesha
Cindy Babyn**

Festival Directors

**William Aide
Edward Laufer
Cindy Babyn**

Artistic Directors

John Kruspe

**Director, Coordinator
Thursday Noon Series Concert**

**Dennis Patrick
Chester Jankowski
Boris Despot**

Technical Support

**John Beckwith
Walter Buczynski
John Hawkins
Larysa Kuzmenko**

Adjudicators

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Erik Ross
Rimma Skeini

Stage Crew

**** Thanks to the FMUA (Faculty of Music Undergraduate Association) for donating posters and materials.**

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Welcome to the University of Toronto's first annual New Music Festival. Our festival will give you an opportunity to hear some of the outstanding composers and performers we have at the Faculty of Music and throughout our city.

The compositions you will hear tonight are those of faculty members, and students whose works were selected through an adjudication process.

In partnership with the Canadian Music Centre, we are offering the "Buddy System," whereby you can attend one or more of our New Music Festival Concerts with a professional composer companion, who will gladly answer any questions you have about attending classical new music concerts. *

Our five-day festival is the culmination of a great deal of time, effort, and enthusiasm donated by faculty members and students. Participating in the New Music Festival are 31 composers, approximately 80 performers and over 30 staff members!

We hope that you will have a unique and interesting experience and we encourage you to meet and speak with the composers and performers! Please come out and join us at the end of the Festival, Saturday, November 2 at 10 p.m. for a party on the top floor of the Madison located one block east of Spadina, just north of Bloor!

Sincerely,
Cindy Babyn & Gary Kulesha

- * Call David Parsons, Ontario Regional Director, CMC:
961-6601 or book an appointment with David at the CMC table
in the lobby.

PROGRAMME

Ramona Luengen

Tenebrae Factae Sunt

Ramona Luengen

Frühlingslied

The MacMillan Singers
Markus Howard, conductor

Walter Buczynski

Piano Sonata No. 6

Walter Buczynski, piano

- INTERMISSION -

Chan Ka Nin

Soulmate

Steven Dann, viola

Ron Royer

A Short Odyssey

Gary Kulesha

...And Dark Time Flowed
By Her Like a River...

Simon Fryer, cello
Lydia Wong, piano

Frühlingslied

Commissioned by the CBC for the
1994 National Youth Choir

Die Sonette An Orpheus: Erster Teil XXI by Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

Frühling ist wiedergekommen. Die Erde
ist wie ein Kind, das Gedichte weiß;
viele, o viele...Für die Beschwerde
langen Lernens bekommt sie den Preis.

Streng war ihr Lehrer. Wir mochten das
Weiße
an dem Barte des alten Manns.
Nun, wie das Grüne, das Blaue heiße,
dürfen wir fragen: sie kanns, sie kanns!

Erde, die frei hat, du glückliche, spiele
nun mit den Kindern. wir wollen dich
fangen,
fröliche Erde. Dem Frohsten gelingt.

O, was der Lehrer sie lehrte, das Viele,
und was gedruckt stecht in Wurzeln und
langen
schwierigen Stämmen: sie singts, sie
singts!

Spring has come again. The earth
is like a child who has memorized
poems;
many, oh many...For the efforts of her
long learning, she receives the prize.

Her teacher was strict. We liked the
white
in the beard of the old man.
Now we may ask her to name the
greens and blues: she knows, she
knows!

Earth, on holidays, you lucky one, play
with the children. We want to catch
you,
happy earth. The merriest will
succeed.

Oh, what the teacher taught her, the
many things
and what lies imprinted in roots and
long,
difficult stems: she sings, she sings!

THE COMPOSERS

Ramona Luengen, composer

Ramona Luengen has composed extensively in the choral genre. Her works have been performed in Canada, Europe, New Zealand and Australia by award-winning ensembles such as Chanticleer, Elektra Women's Choir and the Vancouver Cantata Singers.

In 1995 she was named the new artistic director of the Phoenix Chamber Choir as well as an instructor of 20th century music at Simon Fraser University.

Ms. Luengen's *Stabat Mater*, premiered in November 1995, was named "Outstanding Choral Work" and "Choral Event of the Year" by the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors.

She has just completed her Doctorate in Composition from the University of Toronto.

Ramona Luengen

Tenebrae Factae Sunt

TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT

Darkness came over the earth when the Jews did crucify Jesus; and around the ninth hour Jesus exclaimed in a loud voice: "My God! Why has Thou forsaken Me?" And inclining His head, He gave up the spirit. Jesus, exclaiming in a loud voice, said: "Father, Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit."

Chan Ka Nin, composer

Winner of Juno Awards for Best Classical composition in 1993 and the Jean A. Chalmers Awards for Musical Composition 1996, Chan Ka Nin has been commissioned by ensembles and artists such as CBC Vancouver Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Esprit Orchestra, Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Amici, Rivka Golani and Lawrence Cherney. His numerous international awards include: Béla Bartók International Composers' Competition, International Horn Society Composition Contest, and PROCAN Young Composers' Competition.

Professor Chan was born in Hong Kong and moved with his family to Vancouver in 1965. At University of British Columbia he studied composition with Jean Coulthard while pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. After graduation he decided to continue studying composition with Bernhard Heiden at Indiana University where he eventually obtained his Master's and Doctoral degrees in music. Since 1982, he has been teaching theory and composition at the University of Toronto.

Chan Ka Nin

Soulmate

Written in 1995, *Soulmate* refers to two people who have a real understanding of each other. It is a five-minute piece exploring the expressive quality of the viola.

Ron Royer, composer

Ronald Royer is currently enrolled in the Master's Degree programme in Music Composition at the University of Toronto. He has studied composition with Lothar Klein, Walter Buczynski and Alexander Rapoport.

Mr. Royer has composed works for orchestra, choir, and various chamber ensembles. His first major composition was *Break, Break, Break*, for chorus and orchestra, which was performed in Massey Hall in March 1993. In 1995, his composition *Mistico* was performed by the St. Lawrence String Quartet.

Mr. Royer's *Dance for Orchestra* won First Prize in the Suburban Youth Orchestra Contemporary Composition Competition and was premiered in Chicago in March 1996. *Dance for Orchestra* was also performed by the Glendale Youth Orchestra in Los Angeles, California.

In April 1996, the composition *The Tiger* for Chorus and Symphonic Band was performed by over six hundred and fifty Toronto Board of Education music students at Massey Hall.

Upcoming performances of Mr. Royer's orchestral compositions include the York Symphony Orchestra (November 30, December 1), the Brampton Symphony Orchestra (March 1), and the University of Chicago Orchestra (May 17).

Gary Kulesha, composer

Gary Kulesha is a native Torontonionian. Although principally a composer, he is active as both a pianist and a conductor in stand and contemporary repertoire.

In 1987, he was appointed Artistic Director of The Composers' Orchestra, succeeding Samuel Dolin. He has guest conducted with many other ensembles.

Mr. Kulesha's compositions have been commissioned and performed by several noted artists, including The Toronto Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the English Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul's Chamber Orchestra, Michala Petri, James Campbell, Maureen Forrester, Radio Netherlands, the Guelph Spring Festival, and the CBC. He has several works available on commercial recordings, including his *Concerto for Recorder, Chamber Orchestra* on the RCA label, and his clarinet quartet *Political Implications* for Crystal Records.

Mr. Kulesha was the Composer-in-Residence with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra and the Canadian Opera Company. His opera *Red Emma* was premiered in November 1995. He is currently on a three year tenure as Composer-Advisor to Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

In 1986, he was the youngest composer ever to be named as Composer of the Year by the Performing Rights Organization of Canada. Also in 1986, his work *Angels* represented Canada at the International Rostrum of Composers in Paris. In 1990, Mr. Kulesha's Third Chamber Concerto was nominated for a Juno Award as Best Classical Composition.

Mr. Kulesha has taught composition at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, and teaches composition and theory at the the University of Toronto, where he is also the Director of the Contemporary Music Ensemble; and conducting at the Royal Conservatory of Music. In the first four months of 1996, Mr. Kulesha served as Stanley Knowles Distinguished Visiting Professor at the School of Music at Brandon University.

THE PERFORMERS

The MacMillan Singers

The MacMillan Singers were founded in 1993 by their conductor, Dr. Doreen Rao. They were named to celebrate the legacy of Sir Ernest MacMillan, an inspired performer and devoted educator who influenced every aspect of Canadian musical life. Comprised of undergraduate University of Toronto music students, the chamber choir is dedicated to the performance of culturally diverse and distinctive repertoire. The choir will perform both Canadian and World premieres in their 1996-97 season. The MacMillan Singers "On-Campus" concerts can be heard on "CJRT Concert" 91.1 FM frequently and their broad range of accomplishments include appearing in choral workshops, concerts, and master classes in Canada and the United States.

Markus Howard, conductor

Markus Howard, a third year Music Education Major is the 1996-97 Assistant Conductor of the MacMillan Singers in an apprenticeship with Dr. Doreen Rao. Winner of the 1990 Yamaha Award of Excellence, he brings a wealth of experience to the Choral Department. Markus is the founder and Artistic Director of the innovative chamber choir *La Movida* and was recently awarded the position of conductor for the Toronto Interlink Choir. An avid

choral singer, Markus has appeared with many of Canada's choirs including the Ontario Youth Choir, the National Youth Choir of Canada, the Elora Festiva Chorus and in apprenticeship with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. In the summer of 1996, he represented Canada in the World Youth Choir's tour of Scandinavia and the Baltics, and was most recently honored with an invitation to the choir's 1997 tour of Japan. Next summer, Markus will conduct the prestigious ensemble World Voices, a select choir of 12 singers from the World Youth Choir on their North American Tour.

Steven Dann, viola

Steven Dann was born in Burnaby, B.C. in 1953. Started on the violin, he turned to the viola in his late teens. His teachers include the late Harry Gomez, Lorand Fenyves at the University of Toronto, Robert Pikler in Sydney, Australia and Bruno Giuranna in Italy and England.

He has been the principal viola of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Tonhalle Orchestra in Zurich, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam and the Vancouver Symphony. He is currently the principal viola of the Toronto Symphony, a post he has held since 1988.

Prof. Dann is also active as a soloist, chamber musician and recording artist. He commissioned viola concerti from Alexander Louie, Walter Buczynski and Peter Lieberman, as well as chamber works from R. Murray Schafer, Frederick Schipitsky, Lieberman and Christos Hatzis. A recording of Louie's concerto will soon be released on the CBC-SM5000 label.

Besides holding an Associate Professorship at the University of Toronto, he is regularly invited to perform in numerous chamber music festivals and summer schools.

Simon Fryer, cello

Cellist Simon Fryer has been active in the field of new music for some time. He has worked with this century's most influential musical creators including Iannis Xenakis, Siegfried Palm, Witold Lutoslawski and Tan Dun, as well as Canadian composers such as Robert Aitken, Walter Buczynski, Gary Kulesha, Chan Ka Kin and Alice Ho. He has performed and recorded with both New Music Concerts and Soundstreams Canada in Toronto, and is committed to promote interests in new music at the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and various chamber music groups.

On Jan. 30, 1997, Mr. Fryer will perform Kulesha's "...and dark time flowed by her like a river..." with pianist Lydia Wong for the CBC-FM's broadcast on Feb. 2. Also, on Apr. 8, 1997 at the Eaton Memorial Auditorium, he will perform Dominic Muldowney's "Golden Moments" with double bassist Joel Quarrington.

Lydia Wong, piano

Pianist Lydia Wong was born in Hong Kong and emigrated to Canada in 1973. She holds a B. Mus. degree from the University of Toronto and the Concert Recital Diploma from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, England. Her principal teachers include Boris Berlin, Pierre Souvairan and Paul Markowitz. She has received numerous awards, including the Ivan Sutton Recital Prize which resulted in an acclaimed debut at London's Wigmore Hall.

Ms. Wong has been on faculty for the summer music program at Banff Centre since 1992. She has performed widely as soloist, chamber musician and accompanist. She will premiere a piece by American composer Michael Torke with flautist Marina Piccinini and perform a recital with cellist Shauna Rolston for the New

Music Series at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. She will also collaborate with flautist Susan Hoeppner on a second CD recording.

New Music Festival

Coming Up Tommorrow:

Saturday, November 2 at 8:00 p.m.

**works by Christos Hatzis, Boris Despot,
Richard Mascall, as well as works by Phil Nimmons**